

I am guessing this name was designed by leftist pro types as it sounds like there is no twisting you up. Still seems like a cool righteous rad group
TIARA - Terrorists Involved In All Revolutionary Activity - Melbourne Australia - 2000
By my Elliot

There was an incredible, rowdy, excited and dynamic workshop at this national environmental conference called "Fucking Over the Mainstream Media". It was one of those electric discussions where the room is crammed full of people bursting with ideas and the brainstorm is incredible, your heart is racing from all the ideas and meeting a group of people who you can do this stuff with! For two hours ideas burst forth for national media hoaxes, campaigns, graffiti actions, zines, and a contact list. Then the guy that ran the workshop lost the contact list!! But somehow about six of us from Melbourne managed to swap numbers and arrange to meet up with some vague but determined plans to take over the streets.

I'd been in Melbourne maybe a year and a half and though I'd been engaging in a range of actions, traveled to the Jabiluka (anti-nuke) blockade, attending all kinds of events, I was smoking a lot of pot and was a bit intimidated and hanging back from the broader community.

We arranged to meet at a friend's cottage in Candy Street one Sunday night for the first time. From then on we met every Sunday night or so - always rotating houses - and always feasting on a range of snacks, salads, or bin-saved baklava, as we chatted, laughed and brainstormed ideas, cut stencils or prepared actions.

Our first action was so audacious and daring: we planned to hit a train station in a yuppie suburb, which had eight billboards on the platforms. We'd written a whole lot of stuff that we wanted to paste up in lieu of the ads, collected paint samples (in lovely pinks and purples!), paint trays and rollers. We met at a crazy share house across the road and proceeded to get everything organised for the action. It only took us about 15 minutes to repaint the billboards and paste up our messages, buckets of wheat paste spilling, cameras clicking, all of us incredulous that we were finally doing it, giggling and scooping for security or cops. Eight weeks later and the billboards were still in their improved glory, we were chuffed and had the gumption and inspiration up our sleeves to go for it even more!

We brainstormed and practiced paint bombs, nailing clothes to billboards, witty campaigns against sexist ads, attacked factories of companies with dodgy ads, did press releases, paint bombed the Nike superstore on N30 (Seattle solidarity day) and pulled off another fantastic action that resulted in some permanent street art replacing advertising!

Not far from my old ramshackle terrace house was a skate park. For a long time these six large boards in the park sported pieces, graf art or murals by the local youth group. All of a sudden they were changed to beer ads - I couldn't believe it; beer ads in a skate park?? So when we had a get together of TIARA at my house we got all the gear together and set off to change the situation - painting the boards blank, pasting up the TIARA manifesto and leaving behind a heap of art supplies at the base of each board. The next day the manifesto was torn off, the art supplies gone. For the next couple of months there were tags and a few stickers on the boards, until one day I was walking past and I noticed that six new amazing murals were painted across the boards. I started to cry I was so damn excited; we'd done it!

We made a number of "community arts spaces" along the same idea around the city and collaborated with other rat bags and street art decorators. We made "bike love" stencils on the bike paths, huge stencils about the redirection of the inner city creeks, and joyfully redecorated and ameliorated the streets of Melbourne.

The most incredible thing about TIARA was that we had fantastic fun, we shared our lounge rooms, our ideas, our food, our fear of getting busted, our getaway bike routes, our photos of actions, our dry clothes on wet nights trying to hoist 'new billboards' over boards by highways.... Years later when I think about our adventures I get a warm glow and I know that this crew, the way that we organised and collaborated and the mischief we made contributed no end to me getting my shit together and really engaging in Melbourne life. They are also some of my best mates now.

There are all kinds of crews that decorate Melbie, and it is so exciting to have a dialogue on the streets - the grrr girls "more hairy women on TV" - feminist avengers "I love my cunt" - phuc it up - perks - well worth checking out is the fantastic 'living archive of public trouble making' - clean surface <http://www.cleansurface.org> (and you'll find some TIARA pictures there as well)

This piece is an excerpt from a new CrimethInc. book by women and trannies, about women and trannies, and for everyone. This is not a book about gender, although gender is addressed: this is a big shaggy compendium of inspiring, useful, thought-provoking writing and art about all the things that we as radical anarchists are interested in: community building, trainhopping, anti-racism, love, how to alter a billboard, menopause, how to start a collective, DIY mental health, badass women throughout history, childbirth, tattoos, trans health, capitalism... basically anything you've ever wished you could find in a book like this.

What happens when you filter a whole world through the eyes of women and trannies? What happens when you don't...?

bookproject@riseup.net

UNMEDIATED MEDIA

A workshop on direct action methods for breaking down barriers to communication and interacting with oppressive environments, courtesy of the CrimethInc. Ex-Artists' Collective

- PLEASE mix wheatpaste for putting up posters: mix flour and water to the consistency of soy milk, cook over low heat while stirring consistently, adding water until it is the consistency of pancake batter, cook a little longer, apply
- PLEASE make site-specific stickers—for gas pumps, phones, automatic teller machines, vending machines, items on display in the supermarket...
- PLEASE spray paint stencil designs onto aluminum foil, then paste it up on walls with floor tile glue
- PLEASE put superglue in the locks of offensive establishments
- PLEASE make stop signs more specific with a white Meanstreak™ paint marker
- PLEASE make do-it-yourself mosaics to decorate the street out of asphalt crack filler and vinyl floor tile
- PLEASE print your own front page for the local corporate newspaper, and go around early one morning wrapping the papers in every newspaper dispenser
- PLEASE carry a marker to write "lies" across the front of newspaper dispenser displays on the days no one has been able to wrap them in more honest covers
- PLEASE go to Wal-Mart, put a pair of their bolt cutters in your cart as if you are going to buy them, and go around the store cutting the cords off appliances, the brake lines on bikes, etc.
- PLEASE use a wrench to turn off the gas at corporate fast food franchises during lunch rush— you'll find the gas meter undefended and accessible around back
- PLEASE use the emergency gas shut off button to freeze gasoline supplies at offensive gas stations— often this can be found outside, perhaps even out of sight of the cashier
- PLEASE use a paint roller and a stencil made out of a roll of painters' drop paper to swiftly decorate a street with a thirty foot long design—one person unrolls the stencil, one person applies the paint roller, one person rolls up the stencil behind them
- PLEASE make kits containing posters, wheatpaste, spraypaint, etc. and distribute them to ready but unprepared comrades at mass demonstrations, etc.
- PLEASE use clear nail polish to paint over the plugs on appliances in the service of the capitalist monster, thus making them inexplicably cease to function when plugged in
- PLEASE put a potato in the tail pipe of the next parked police car you see
- PLEASE start your own marching band, and parade around the neighborhood in the afternoon as a way to make friends and entertain people
- PLEASE enter your marching band or other project in local community events such as the 4th of July parade
- PLEASE start surprise parades at the end of punk rock shows or in other opportune crowd situations
- PLEASE apply glass etching cream or fluid to offending corporate windows by means of squirt bottles, sponges, or shoe polish applicators
- PLEASE be careful as you do so! *but not only limited to the pain & spiritual damage completely*
Let's do this
- PLEASE contact us at CrimethInc., P.O. Box 2133, Greensboro, NC 27402 USA (www.crimethinc.com) for more information and inflammatory material.

cookbook ideas to Brian at CrimethInc@yahoo.com

Two Person banner dropping method

This method works well on traffic light posts in busy intersections. When done properly the banner will be left with no means to get it down from the ground, ideally causing the need for a crane to be used thus stopping traffic. With coordination and practice it can be done in a matter of minutes allowing for busier intersections to be targeted.

materials:

3 bundles of plastic lined clothesline (may need more depending on height of desired drop)
 2 Large Molly Bolts (see fig. a) (*Note: Molly bolts must be able to fit through caribeaner but still be somewhat bigger (fig. c))
 2 caribeaners (hardware store) quick release type (fig. b)
 1 roll of duct tape
 2 tube socks with bottoms filled with grain or pebbles/rocks, any weight
 1 banner
 1 thin piece of wood stripping or 1x2 board or cardboard to keep top of banner taut
 2 water balloons (weights for bottom of banner) or another piece of wood like mentioned above.
 staple gun
 2 people with good throwing arms (aim helps too)

Step 1: Some assembly required

Paint banner, keeping in mind you will not get it back. Attach the thin piece of wood along the top with the staple gun (fig. 1). The top wood should be the length of the banner with a few inches on each side (3-4"). (If you have another piece of wood for the bottom for weight attach that as well. Water balloons work well as weights for dropping above intersections because if something happens you won't be charged with attempt of murder because a brick fell from your banner and smashed someone's windshield.)

From one bundle of clothesline cut two 5' pieces. Make a 6" loop at one end of each piece and reinforce with duct tape. (fig.2) *from the loop tie a knot. Run the clothesline through the Molly bolt making sure it closes away from the loop. Tie another knot inside the Molly bolt making sure it still allows the bolt to eat or open and close. (fig.2)

The following should be done to each side of the 3-4" of protruding wood on the top of the banner:

Tape the end of the 5' piece of clothesline to the back of the piece of wood. (*Note: The clothesline piece and caribeaner can be attached at the same time.) Tape the caribeaner facing outward on the front of the piece of wood by wrapping it with duct tape. It should open inward and be perpendicular to the wood. (fig.3)

With your remaining clothesline bundles (one for each side) run one end through the 6" loop until both ends meet. (fig.4) Attach a sock (with rocks inside) at the end of the clothesline with duct tape.

Now your banner should be all set!

Step 2: The drop

Practice throwing before you attempt the *final drop*. With traffic lights, though it may not look that high it's good to gain confidence by trying a few throws before hand. Take socks with rocks attached to clothesline and practice on a quiet street at night. Watch out for Powerlines!!! Scout out your area well ahead of time. Figure out who is going to stand on which end. Look for possible problems at the area you are dropping: powerlines, tree branches, traffic flow. Talk through the following steps to make sure you and your partner get it.

Finally... *the drop*.

With a person on each side, both people simultaneously throw the weighted socks over the pole. (be careful not to get the clothesline tied up or crossed). For both sides: grab your sock and clip the clothesline through the caribeaner (fig.5). Rip or cut the socks free from the clothesline at the end. (fig.5) Continuing to hold both parts of the clothesline, simultaneously pull the banner up with your partner. Continue to pull until the Molly bolt passes through the caribeaner on each side. (fig.6) (*Note: This is sometimes the most difficult part. You may need to jiggle the Molly bolt through...don't panic if it gets stuck...keep jiggling.) Once the Molly bolt is open and caught on the caribeaner on both sides, pull one of the clothesline all the way down until it comes free. (fig.7) Then... You're done! If everything goes smoothly the entire drop should only take a minute or two.

Extra tips: To figure out needed length of clothesline follow this basic algebra equation. (figures out height of traffic light) To come up too short on clothesline is embarrassing and can be avoided! On a sunny day (knowing your height) measure your shadow while standing next to what you plan on hanging the banner from. Then measure the shadow of the post. a =your height b =your shadow c =traffic light shadow and x =height of traffic light. $ac=bx$. Or just call up the traffic people and ask. REMEMBER! The clothesline must go all the way up and back down so it's $2x$ the height of your pole.

One person can drop a banner in this method. With one caribeaner in the center of the banner and two even ropes coming from both sides tied in one loop and following the same directions you should be able to drop it easily by yourself. (fig.8)

GOOD LUCK! HAVE FUN! WATCH OUT FOR POWERLINES! ...I'm serious.

